

**CLARK COUNTY
CLEAN WATER COMMISSION
Meeting Notes**

Wednesday, November 6, 2002
6:00 – 9:00 PM
Clark County Public Works Department
Conference Room
4700 NE 78th Street
Vancouver, Washington

Call to Order

Roll Call:

Clark County Clean Water Commission Members Present

Robbie Agard, Cal Ek, Dana Kemper, Susan Rasmussen, Judy Schramm, Don Steinke, and Virginia van Breemen

Clark County Clean Water Commission Members Absent

Anne Jackson, Mary Martin and Art Stubbs

Clark County Public Works Staff

Kelli Frost, Earl Rowell, Jeff Schnabel and Ron Wierenga

Audience

Bob Blakemore, citizen and Denise Smee, Clark Conservation District

Introduction

The members of the Clark County Clean Water Commission, Clark County staff, and guests were introduced. The meeting was then called to order.

Agenda and material review

The material for tonight's meeting include:

1. 11/06/02 Clark County Clean Water Commission meeting Agenda.
2. 9/02/02 Clark County Clean Water Commission meeting notes.
3. Few attend water meeting, article in the Reflector 10/09/02.
4. A natural way to save our water, article in The Columbian 10/14/02.
5. Volunteers help monitor the state's water quality, article from The Oregonian.
6. Clark County Public Works Water Resources Stream Monitoring Map.
7. Clark County Volunteer Monitoring Program Stream and River Monitoring Manual.
8. Clark County Clean Water Program 2002, Tracked Fee Disputes.
9. 2001-02 Clean Water Program Budget 9/30/02.
10. Draft Clean Water Commission Meetings 2003.
11. Clark County Clean Water Commission 2001 Annual Report.

10/9/02 notes

The notes from the 10/09/02 Clark County Clean Water Commission meeting were approved as written.

Public Comments

Mr. Blakemore questioned the clean water fee on four parcels located in north Battleground. Three of the parcels were assessed residential and one was assessed commercial. Mr. Blakemore wanted to know the basis of the fee. It was determined that one of the parcels in question was Kennedy Auto Wrecking and was correctly assessed as a commercial property. Mr. Rowell recommended that Mr. Blakemore contact him, at work, to discuss this parcel in greater detail. (At the time these notes were prepared Mr. Blakemore has not been in contact with Mr. Rowell.)

Clark Conservation District

Ms. Smee from the Clark Conservation District was introduced. She began by giving a brief history of the Clark Conservation District and continued by discussing some of the various projects that they work on, for example:

- Hosting the Envirothon and working with schools.
- Working with landowners and dairies.
- Addressing Clean Water Act and Endangered Species Act compliance issues.
- Planting trees and grasses on non-productive land.

Mr. Kemper asked if they were working on any projects in partnership with the County?

Ms. Smee replied that there are a few monitoring projects in collaboration with the County.

Mr. Agard: "Mr. Chairman this shows how urgent it is for this group to have the ability to authorize loans and grants to organizations such as this. It may give us a bigger bang for our buck."

Mr. Kemper asked Mr. Rowell what the necessary steps are to allow the Clean Water Commission the ability to authorize loans and grants.

Mr. Rowell: Replied that a screening and evaluation process would need to be established before distributing funds to an organization.

Mr. Agard noted that the Clean Water Commissioners would take part in the evaluation process.

Mr. Agard proposed Motion 2002-1106-06: I move that staff look into designing a way that we can award grants and find out how much money is available.

Motion passed by all present Clark County Clean Water Commissioners.

Clark County Volunteer Monitoring

Mr. Wierenga, a Water Resources Scientist for the Water Resources Section was introduced to the Clean Water Commissioners. He began by describing some of the projects that he is working on such as developing a volunteer monitoring program as part of the Centennial Grant awarded to Water Resources from the Washington Department of Ecology.

Mr. Agard asked if the monitoring program would be separate from the Watershed Stewards Program?

Mr. Wierenga replied that part of the responsibilities of the Volunteer Monitoring Program would be to provide equipment and procedures to help the Watershed Stewards and various other groups perform various monitoring activities around Clark County.

Mr. Agard: How many volunteer monitoring sites do you have?

Mr. Wierenga stated that there are five volunteer site, ten long term sites and five Salmon Creek sites

Updates

Clean Water Fee Program

Mr. Rowell provided a hand out which tracked the 2002 clean water fee calls by census tract and noted that the majority of the calls were located in North Clark County.

Mr. Rowell reported that so far in 2002 the delinquency rate is 11%, for 2001 it is at 3%, and for the year 2000 it is down to 2%.

Mr. Rowell also notes that various county departments are still revising the appeal from Pacific Rock.

Budget Information

Mr. Rowell handed out a budget report as of 9/30/02.

January 2003 Clark County Clean Water Commission Meeting

Due to the New Years holiday falling on a Wednesday it was recommended that the January meeting be moved to the second Wednesday of the month, January 9, 2003. We have requested use of the Battle Ground Fire District Conference room and should receive confirmation before the next Clean Water Commission Meeting, December 4, 2003.

2002 Annual Report

Mr. Rowell asked the Clean Water Commissioners to begin working on an outline for the 2002 Annual Report to the Board of County Commissioners.

Clean Water Fee Program Audit

Mr. Agard inquired as to when the Clean Water Fee Program audit would be complete.

Mr. Rowell noted that he would contact Ms. Bade to get an updated report. They have finished the 1st phase of the audit and are now working on part 2.

Adjourn

The next Clean Water Commission Meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 4, 2002 at 6:00 at Clark County Public Works Operations Conference Room B1, 4700 NE 78th Street.

Respectfully submitted by Kelli Frost